

# **County of San Diego**

# **DPLU Update**

February 2010

#### **IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES:**

- Feb. 5: Planning Commission Subcommittee: Conservation Subdivision Program
- Feb. 19: Planning Commission: General Plan Update
- Feb. 27 Zoning Ordinance Update Amendments go into effect

For more information and additional upcoming meetings, please visit the Calendar on the General Plan Update Web site.

# **Advance Planning News**

### **General Plan Update**

#### **Conservation Subdivision Program Subcommittee**

The Planning Commission's Conservation Subdivision Program subcommittee, which was originally scheduled to meet Jan. 8, is scheduled to meet Feb. 5 in the DPLU Hearing Room, immediately following the Planning Commission meeting. The regular Planning Commission Meeting is expected to be short, and it is likely that the Subcommittee will begin in the mid-morning. The subcommittee will specifically discuss issues concerning Conservation Subdivisions that arose during the General Plan Update hearings held in November and December, including: minimum lot-size regulations, community character and the role of Community Plans. The meeting is open to the public. The subcommittee is comprised of three planning commissioners.

#### **Planning Commission Hearing**

The Planning Commission will reconvene its General Plan Update hearing Feb. 19, continuing the hearings that took place in November and December 2009. At the Feb. 19 hearing, the Planning Commission will continue discussions on various issues raised at the previous meetings. A complete list of issues will be provided in a planning report distributed prior to the hearing. Some of the issues include:

- The Conservation Subdivision Program,
- Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report,
- Equity Mechanisms,
- Economic Impacts.
- Pipelining Policy/Projects,
- General Plan Amendments following the General Plan Update and
- Population Forecasts.

#### **Planning Commission Recommended Land Use Maps**

The Planning Commission Tentative Recommended Land Use Maps, developed at recent meetings on Nov. 6, 19 and 20, and Dec. 4, are now available on the DPLU's Web Site at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/gpupdate

Additional information from the Planning Commission hearing, including links to the presentations, is available on the December special edition of the <u>DPLU Update</u>.

#### **Zoning Ordinance Consistency**

Staff has been studying where regulations in the Zoning Ordinance will need to be revised concurrent with the General Plan Update, and has started sending preliminary recommended changes to the community planning and sponsor groups for feedback. If interested please contact your <u>Planning or Sponsor Group Chairperson</u> or County staff (Staff Contact: <u>Carl Stiehl</u>). The General Plan Update remains on schedule to go to the Board of Supervisors for adoption in the Fall of 2010.

# **Policy and Ordinance Development**

### **Subdivision Ordinance Update**

The Board of Supervisors approved Advanced Planning's comprehensive "cleanup" of the County's Subdivision Ordinance Jan. 27. The changes will improve the ordinance and make it easier to read and understand. The amended ordinance will go back to the Board for its second reading Feb. 24 and will become effective 30 days thereafter. The revised ordinance, as well as the CEQA Negative Declaration, is currently available on our Web Site. (Staff Contact: Heather Steven)

# Landscape Ordinance

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance and endorsed the Water Conservation in Landscaping Design Manual Dec. 9, 2009. The new ordinance and design manual will improve landscaping regulations by requiring and promoting increased water conservation, consistent with state requirements. The public can view the County Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance and the Design Manual on the <u>Advance Planning Web Site</u>. (Staff Contact: <u>Dixie Switzer</u>)

#### **Zoning Ordinance Update**

The Board of Supervisors approved an update of the Zoning Ordinance Jan. 27. The amendments will become effective Feb. 27. The ordinance and environmental documents can be viewed at the <u>Advance Planning Web Site</u>. (Staff Contact: <u>Heather Steven</u>).

#### **Medical Marijuana**

The Board of Supervisors approved an interim urgency ordinance enacting a moratorium to prohibit the establishment of marijuana dispensaries in the unincorporated County in August 2009. The urgency ordinance was approved for a 10 month and 15 day period consistent with State law to give staff time to research, study and propose options to regulate medical marijuana collectives. Staff is completing draft ordinance amendments to the County Zoning Ordinance and County Regulatory Code. The ordinance amendments are anticipated to be ready for review soon and will be posted on the Policy and Ordinance Development Web Site. (Staff Contact: Joseph Farace)

# **Renewable Energy Ordinance**

Advance Planning staff has initiated amendments to the County Zoning Ordinance which would 1) update existing County regulations pertaining to wind turbine systems and 2) add new provisions related to the siting and permitting of solar energy systems and facilities. The draft ordinance and CEQA Negative Declaration prepared for the project should be available for public review soon. The ordinance will be presented to the County Board of Supervisors in 2010. (Staff Contact: Carl Stiehl)

View our Web Site for more information:
<a href="http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/advance/index.html">http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/advance/index.html</a> or
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